



The Best of Both Worlds

What is a hybrid “dual-fuel” heating system?

Dual-fuel means any HVAC system that is designed to use two separate fuel sources to heat your home. Typically one system is set as the primary heat source, with the other as a backup. With a hybrid system, you’re combining traditional fuels with electricity, just like a hybrid vehicle. The most popular option being a gas or oil furnace and electric heat pump combination.



Why heat pumps?

Did you know that the Northeast experiences approximately 7 months of cold weather each year? This means your heating system puts in a lot of hours working for you each year. But you may be surprised to hear that only about 50% of those months reach below 40 degrees. Even with a high-efficiency furnace, this means a lot of fuel is spent heating your home for minimal gains. With the price of oil and gas rising more each year, electric run heat pumps are a cost effective and high performance option to heat your home during the majority of the winter months, saving your traditional heating source only for the coldest days.

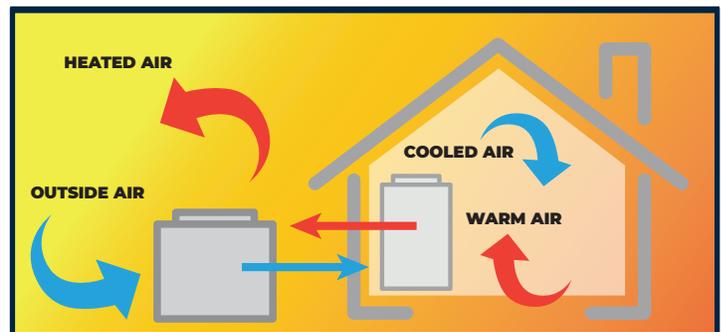
How They Work

Heat Pumps, much like your home’s air conditioning system, use electricity and refrigerant to condition the air in your home. However, instead of removing heat from the indoor air, a heat pump takes cold outdoor air and converts it into warm air. This may seem counterintuitive, but the compressed refrigerant in the heat pump coil gets so cold, it can extract even the smallest amount of heat from the outdoor air. The amazing thing about heat pumps is that they can still efficiently extract heat even down to 35 degrees!

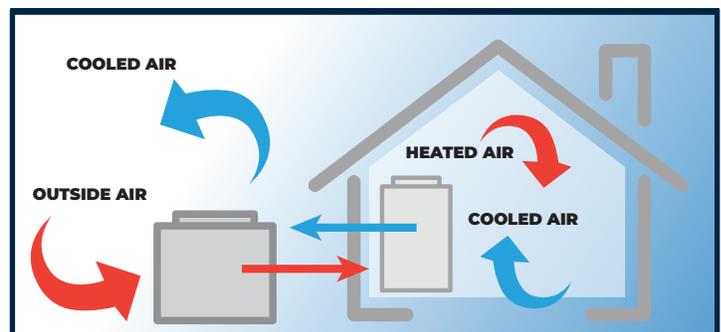
What about the colder days?

That’s where the dual-fuel design comes into play. During the coldest days (below 35 degrees), your heat pump will automatically kick-off and switch over to your furnace, which is more efficient at heating your home in below freezing temperatures.

Hybrid Heat - Cooling Season Operation



Hybrid Heat - Heating Season Operation



(See reverse side)

Are hybrid heating systems cost efficient?

The price of oil and gas is becoming more expensive as the years go on. This is due to many factors, but the need for more cost effective heating solutions has become a clear priority for many homeowners in the Northeast. Similar to hybrid cars, hybrid heating systems can be a larger upfront investment. However, they offer long-term savings by reducing your monthly energy bills. A hybrid heating system is estimated to save the average homeowner up to 30 percent in energy costs in a year's time, and most hybrid systems will pay for themselves in three to five years. Additionally, when operating within its optimal temperature range, heat pumps can produce heat at an efficiency of nearly 300%! Put another way, for every \$1 you pay in electricity, you'll receive \$3 worth of heating performance.

You said they work like an AC? What's that about?

That's right! While the word "heat" in heat pumps can be a little misleading, they operate using the exact same technology as a regular central air conditioning system. The key difference being they are designed to inverse this function to extract heat from the outdoor air, and transfer it into your home. Heat pumps are extremely versatile year-round comfort systems, acting as both your home's central heating and cooling system!

Get Even More Control with A Heat Pump Thermostat

This is a great add-on if you're looking for even more convenience from your new hybrid heat pump system. Heat Pump Thermostats are an all-in-one solution that give you further control over your home's temperature, humidity, and air conditioning, without the need for multiple devices on your wall. And with the optional wi-fi technology package, you can even adjust your settings from your smartphone, no matter where you are!



Keeping Your System Working Year-Round

Here's three easy steps in making sure your hybrid dual fuel system provides you with years of comfort:

- 1. Keep the top of the outdoor unit clear of snow, ice, and debris.*
- 2. Change your indoor air filters regularly.*
- 3. Set your thermostat to a comfortable temperature & the system will handle the rest.*
- 4. Schedule annual maintenance (every year!)*

That's it! Simply set your thermostat to a comfortable temperature, and the system will handle the rest.

Schedule A Quote Today

Our expert project managers can help you design a customized solution for your home's exact needs. Just call Heritage to schedule your free quote today!